Coal Shortage by Eastern Regional Power Stations of NTPC

4446. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Eastern Regional Power Stations of NTPC including Farakka are facing frequent coal shortage;

(b) if so, the details of the same and action taken by Government to overcome this problem;

(c) whether NTPc has applied for allotment of eleven coal blocks including Brahmini (ECL) for captive mining;

(d) if so, the status of allotment of these blocks?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Coal shortage faced by the stations of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in Eastern Region *vis-a-vis* their coal requirement corresponding to Central Electricity Authority's (CEA) generation targets during the year 2004-05 is indicated below:

(Figures in Million Tonnes)

Sl No	Power Station	Linkage	Annual Requirement*	Coal Receipt	Shortage of coal *vis-a-vis* Coal Requirement
1	Farakka	10.014	11.74	8.91	2.83
2	Talcher	13.620	14.75	11,54	3.21

* Requirement of coal corresponding to CEA generation target, stock building and additional generation.

The following steps have been taken by the Government for overcoming the problem of coal shortage:

(a) The coal supply position to thermal power stations is vigorously monitored in Central Electricity Authority and Ministry of Power.

(b) The Infrastructure Constraints Review Committee, headed by Secretary (Coordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat, reviews the coal production and supply to thermal power stations in the country every month.

(c) Ministry of Coal is being insisted upon to enhance the production of coal in the country.

(d) Ministry of Coal has been approached for allocation coal blocks for captive mining by power utilities.

(e) Efforts are made to import coal to meet the shortfall.

Besides the above, NTPC has been advised by the Ministry of Power to import 2.1 Million Tonnes of coal, approximately 1.75 lakh tones/month for a period of one year.

(c) and (d) NTPC has applied for the allocation of 16 coal blocks including Brahmini Coal Block of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. Only one coal block *viz.* Pakri Barwadih (North Karanpura coalfields in Central Coalfields Ltd. command area) has been allotted to NTPC under Government dispensation route.

Scaling down of the Siang upper power project

4447. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ambitious 11000 mtr. Siang upper project which would have been the country's largest power project is likely to be scaled down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there has been pressure from neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) The Upper Siang Hydroelectric Project with an estimated generating capacity of 11,000 MW is located in the upper reaches of the Siang Basin in Arunachal Pradesh. This generating capacity is only a rough estimate based on desk studies carried out by the BrahmaputraBoard. The final power generating capacity of the project would be firmed up/revised on the basis of optimization studies carried out at the site after completion of Survey and Investigation works and after taking into account the views of the concerned States on the height of the dam.

(c) No, Sir.